

An **Examiner's Amendment** to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Janice Kugler De Young, on 2/16/07.

Examiner's Amendment to the Claims

Cancel claims 3, 9-30.

Examiner's Amendments to the Specification

JS 2/15/07
In page 61, line ¹³8, delete "Example 10" and substitute therefor --- Example 9 ---.

The following is an **Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance**:

Claims 1-2, 4-8, 42-51 are directed to a method of screening for compounds that modulate the activity of a KIF18A kinsein molecule of specific amino acid sequence (see SEQ ID NO:2) and specifically claimed homologs thereof comprising: (a) obtaining a test cell containing said polypeptides and/or said homologs thereof that localize to the distal ends of astral microtubules in dividing cells and a control cell containing said polypeptides, (b) incubating the test cell with a test compound and (c) detecting specifically claimed altered localization of said polypeptides in the test cell as compared to the KIF18A polypeptide in the control cell, wherein said altered localization indicates that the test compound modulates activity of the KIF18A polypeptide and specifically claimed homologs thereof.